Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1-8 **(Cancelled)**

9. **(Currently amended)** A method of aging a plasma display panel having a scan electrode covered with a dielectric layer, a sustain electrode covered with the dielectric layer and a data electrode, said method comprising:

during manufacture of the plasma display panel, performing an aging discharge by applying a voltage having an ~~alternate~~ alternating voltage component at least between the scan electrode and the sustain electrode such that the voltage is applied in an alternating manner between one condition in which the scan electrode acts as an anode and the sustain electrode acts as a cathode, and another condition in which the scan electrode acts as a cathode and the sustain electrode acts as an anode;

wherein ~~a leading edge of~~ a waveform of voltage applied ~~to~~ between the scan electrode and the sustain electrode, in the condition in which the scan electrode acts as the cathode and the sustain electrode acts as the anode, has a gradually ascending ~~slope, and a trailing edge of a waveform of voltage applied to the sustain electrode has a gradually descending slope.~~ leading edge and a sharply descending trailing edge; and

wherein a waveform of voltage applied between the scan electrode and the sustain electrode, in the condition in which the scan electrode acts as the anode and the sustain electrode acts as the cathode, has a sharply ascending leading edge and a gradually descending trailing edge.

10. **(Currently amended)** A method of aging a plasma display panel having a scan electrode covered with a dielectric layer, a sustain electrode covered with the dielectric layer and a data electrode, said method comprising:

during manufacture of the plasma display panel, performing an aging discharge by applying a voltage having an ~~alternate~~ alternating voltage component at least between the scan electrode and the sustain electrode such that the voltage is applied in an alternating manner between one condition in which the scan electrode acts as an anode and the sustain electrode acts as a cathode, and another condition in which the scan electrode acts as a cathode and the sustain electrode acts as an anode;

wherein the aging discharge ~~where~~ in the condition in which the scan electrode acts as ~~an~~ the anode and the sustain electrode acts as ~~a~~ the cathode is weaker than the aging discharge ~~where~~ in the condition in which the scan electrode acts as ~~a~~ the cathode and the sustain electrode acts as ~~an~~ the anode.

11. **(New)** A method of aging a plasma display panel, according to claim 9, wherein, in said performing of the aging discharge:

in the condition in which the scan electrode acts as the cathode and the sustain electrode acts as the anode, the gradually ascending leading edge of the waveform has an ascending slope smaller than a descending slope of the sharply descending trailing edge; and

in the condition in which the scan electrode acts as the anode and the sustain electrode acts as the cathode, the sharply ascending leading edge of the waveform has an ascending slope greater than a descending slope of the gradually descending trailing edge.

12. **(New)** A method of aging a plasma display panel, according to claim 9, wherein

in said performing of the aging discharge, the aging discharge is carried out in such a manner as to form an asymmetric dent in a protecting layer covering the dielectric layer.

13. **(New)** A method of aging a plasma display panel, according to claim 10, wherein

in said performing of the aging discharge, the aging discharge is carried out in such a manner as to form an asymmetric dent in a protecting layer covering the dielectric layer.